



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE



Question: What's wrong with this picture?

(please circle answer)

- A. Plastic bags in the green yard waste cart
- B. Debris pile is mixed
- C. Plastic bag in the swale
- D. All of the above

Answer:

If you chose the answer "D" you are correct. Plastic bags should never be placed in yard waste carts. Vegetation should be separated from other storm debris. Plastic bags will not be collected unless they are placed in black carts.

Post-Hurricane Irma: Questions & Answers about the debris removal process underway in Fort Lauderdale neighborhoods

Question: How long will it take to remove the debris along my street?

Answer: Debris removal will occur systematically throughout the entire City by zones. The first pass to remove separated debris piles is likely to occur in most neighborhoods in the next several weeks. As our neighbors continue recovery, the City recognizes that additional storm-related vegetative debris from backyards, fencing and other repairs may need to be placed at the curb. Up to two additional passes for debris collection may occur until storm related debris is removed.

Question: How much debris must be picked up following Hurricane Irma?

Answer: Imagine an average of 30 bathtubs of debris piled in front of every home. Imagine 310 Olympic-sized swimming pools filled to the top with debris. Imagination became reality in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma's destructive visit to the City.

Question: Is the City making any progress with clean-up?

Answer: City contractors swiftly cleared debris from City roadways enabling emergency responders and neighbors to regain the ability to move about the City. City crews cleared an estimated 60,000 cubic yards of sand from A1A. Collection of black garbage carts has resumed; collection of blue recycling carts has resumed; and, 21 City parks are officially open.

Question: What is the status of debris collection and what are the plans moving forward?

Answer: While our City was very fortunate to receive limited structural damage from this storm, impacts to vegetation, fencing and our tree canopy were significant. City contractors began debris collection last week and are focused on making multiple passes through our neighborhoods to collect more than one million cubic yards of storm-generated debris. Consistent with the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) regulations, up to three passes will be made through neighborhood streets ensuring that all eligible storm debris is removed. Debris pile removal in key transit corridors will be an early focus of the effort. Neighbors are asked to be patient as contractors are deployed systematically throughout the entire City. Debris collections activities will be increasing in intensity throughout the week and will continue until storm related debris has been removed.

Question: What can I do to help quicken the recovery efforts?

Answer: For efficiency of debris collection, our neighbors need to follow the FEMA regulations on the separation of debris and debris pile placement. Please separate:

- **VEGETATIVE DEBRIS** (whole trees, tree stumps, tree branches, tree trunks and other leafy material)
 - **CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION DEBRIS** (damaged components of homes, buildings and structures such as lumber and wood, fencing, wall board, glass, metal, roofing materials, tile, furnishings, and fixtures)
 - **APPLIANCES & WHITE GOODS DAMAGED BY THE STORM** (refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, heat pumps, ovens, ranges, washing machines, clothes dryers and water heaters)
 - **ELECTRONIC WASTE** (computers, televisions, office electronic equipment, etc.)
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Question: What do I do with household hazardous waste?

Answer: Household hazardous waste (materials that are ignitable, reactive, toxic or corrosive such as paints, cleaners, pesticides, etc.) should NOT be placed with debris piles. Special instructions will be announced later.

Question: When will normal yard waste cart collection resume?

Answer: The City will resume collections of residential yard waste carts effective Monday, September 25th. Yard waste carts will be emptied on their regularly scheduled day, but due to high volumes, may be serviced earlier or later than neighbors may be accustomed. Neighbors should be reminded that yard waste carts cannot be used for regular household trash, recycling or hurricane vegetative debris. Collectors will only collect what is in the cart and will not service bags or additional piles placed next to the cart. Bulk pick-up services remain suspended at this time.

Question: What happens if I do not separate debris?

Answer: Debris pick up will occur in zones and separated piles will be picked up first. Failure to separate your debris may cause a delay in removal of your debris piles. Please note that only loose debris will be collected. Bagged debris should not be placed on the public right-of-way and cannot be collected.

Question: What do I do with normal household waste?

Answer: Neighbors should continue to use black carts only for food and other household waste. Do not place spoiled food items or other waste in debris piles. Place carts out on your regularly scheduled days.

Question: Where do I place the debris?

Answer: Only debris placed on the public right-of-way will be eligible for collection. Please avoid placing debris on driveways or other private paved surfaces. Debris will not be collected from alleys. Neighbors should take care to avoid placing debris on a storm drain or near trees, utility poles, water meter vault, fire hydrants or any other above-ground utility.

Question: Who should I call to pick-up my debris?

Answer: There is no need to call the City to report your debris piles. The City's contractors will make multiple passes through neighborhoods. Response to individual requests for debris pile removal will not be possible until contractors have collected the majority of debris city-wide.

***Thank you for your patience as the City of Fort Lauderdale
recovers from Hurricane Irma.***



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